

SOCIETY:

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Eisenhowers Give Dinner for

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Society Editor

Cabinet Group

Special Agency Heads,
Wives Attend Dinner

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FORMAL dinner menus at the White House are a top chef secret. It won't be revealing recipes, however, to hazard a guess that on Tuesday evening, it might have been plain "home-cooking." Tuesday's eat-at-eight event was strictly a family party.

Marking first-call in the series of dinners the Eisenhowers will give this season for big-wigs from government branches, it honored the President's closest group—the big and the little Cabinet.

The executive clan these days—counting all its official uncles and cousins and aunts—is not a paltry number. From wall to wall of the big state dining room, the table was set for 70 and more.

State Secretary and Mrs. Dulles headed up the family group with Henry Cabot Lodge jr., American ambassador to the United Nations, and Mrs. Lodge seated second right of center.

The list ended up with Maestro Fred M. Waring, who was there for ear-effects. He and his Pennsylvanians gave an after-coffee program in the East room, taking for their score "The Songs That America Loves."

Getting an earlier pitch was Warrant Officer Albert Schoeper and his Marine band orchestra detail. They tuned in on "Kiss Me Kate," "Fiddle Faddle" Victor Herbert and Sousa marches.

Cabinet officers and their wives wore their White House

bibs and tuckers. Mrs. Charles E. Wilson, wife of the secretary of Defense, encored her Inauguration ball gown—first time since January. A Sonia original, it was of gold Alenson lace over matching gold net and fashioned with a full skirt. With it, she wore a white mink stole.

Secretary of Welfare Hobby chose executive black velvet—with which she wore pearls.

Mrs. McKay Wears

Blue Chiffon Gown

Mrs. Douglas McKay, wife of the Interior secretary, selected one of the two new "formals" she recently bought on a west coast trip. It was of Alice-blue chiffon and sparkled with sequins.

As for Mrs. James P. Mitchell, wife of the Labor secretary—she was in beige taffeta accented in orchid. She came to town not only to attend the cabinet dinner (her official debut) but to attend to final details in connection with the new house she and her husband have taken on Upland terrace.

Except for Secretary of State and Mrs. Dulles (she had chosen black taffeta) and the Lodges, who were main-entrance carriage trade, the other guests arrived thru the new East Executive wing. The paneled, marble-floored foyer was making its official debut, too.

Now—back to the list in official order. After the Lodges, came Treasury Secretary and Mrs. Humphrey (she was in pale green chiffon); then the Wilsons, then Attorney General and Mrs. Brownell (the latter in green satin); Postmaster General and Mrs. Summerfield (she wore a gray velvet gown edged with mink); the McKays, Secretary of Agriculture and Mrs. Benson (she wore an embroidered Czechoslovakian jacket over her party frock); Secretary of

Present, too, were Foreign Operations Administrator and Mrs. Stassen, Director of the Office of Defense Mobilization and Mrs. Fleming, Director of the Bureau of the Budget and Mrs. Dodge, Assistant to the President and Mrs. Stevens, Secretary of the Navy and Mrs. Anderson, Secretary to the President and Mrs. Stephens, Press Secretary and Mrs. Haggerty, Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission and Mrs. Strauss, Civil Defense Administrator and Mrs. Peterson, and the President of the American Red Cross and Mrs. Harriman.

Also the Administrator of Veterans Affairs and Mrs. Higley, C.I.A. Director and Mrs. Dulles, Civil Service Commission Chairman and Mrs. Young, Chairman of the Civil Aeronautics Board and Mrs. Ryan, Director of the United States Information Agency and Mrs. Streibert, Robert Cutler, special assistant to the President; Special Assistant to the President and Mrs. Jackson, United States Treasurer Priest, Senate Secretary and Mrs. Trice and the Clerk of the House and Mrs. Snader.

Also present at the White House dinner on Tuesday were William T. Faricy, president of the American Association of Railroads, and Mrs. Faricy; Leonard W. Hall, Republican national committee chairman, and Mrs. Hall; Alton Jones, president of Cities Service, and Mrs. Jones; Mr. and Mrs. Ray L. Scherer, and Mr. and Mrs. Merriman Smith.